

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 PM-03 SP-02 L-01 SAB-01  
PRS-01 INR-05 H-01 DHA-02 SIL-01 PA-01 /043 W  
-----001912 162325Z /65  
P 162247Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3736

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STADIS////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PBOR, ELAB, SOPN, PQ  
SUBJECT: ANTI-TREATY RALLY IN CANAL ZONE

REF: PANAMA 6699

SUMMARY: AT SEPTEMBER 15 RALLY IN ZONE, WILLIAM DRUMMOND  
FAILED TO CALL FOR AN IMMEDIATE WORK STOPPAGE, BUT CLEARLY  
RESERVED SUCH A CALL FOR FUTURE USE. HE WILL RETURN  
TO WASHINGTON ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 18, AND PLANS TO  
ACCOMPANY ALFRED GRAHAM TO HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE HEARINGS. CHANCE OF WILDCAT WALKOUT APPEARS  
TO BE LESS, AT LEAST UNTIL HE RETURNS AGAIN IN EARLY  
OCTOBER. END SUMMARY.

1. CANAL ZONE RALLY FOR WILLIAM DRUMMOND'S RETURN  
(REFTEL) WAS HELD SEPTEMBER 15 IN FRONT OF PANCANAL  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. CANAL ZONE POLICE CROWD ESTIMATE  
WAS ABOUT 780; SEVERAL OBSERVERS PRESENT, INCLUDING  
EMBOFF, HAD LOWER ESTIMATES OF AROUND 400.

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2. RALLY BEGAN AT 1900; MRS. PATRICIA FULTON MODERATED  
FOR A SUCCESSION OF INDIVIDUAL SPEAKERS WHILE WAITING  
FOR DRUMMOND, WHO ARRIVED AT 2010. SPEECHES WERE GENERALLY  
LACKLUSTER DENUNCIATIONS OF TREATY, WITH PARTICULAR  
FOCUS ON ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY GOP.

3. MRS. FULTON URGED THAT PEOPLE MARK "OBVIOUS FAULTS"

ON COPIES OF TREATY AND SEND THEM TO CONGRESSMEN. SHE TOLD AUDIENCE TO ASK WHETHER, EVEN IF SATISFACTORY LABOR GUARANTEES WERE OBTAINED, THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO LIVE WITH THIS TREATY UNDER THIS PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT.

4. DRUMMOND'S SPEECH WAS MOSTLY A RUNDOWN ON HIS EFFORTS IN WASHINGTON TO TELL HIS TALE TO THE MEDIA, EXECUTIVE OFFICIALS AND CONGRESS. HE SAID THAT AFL-CIO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR LEE HAD BEEN "UNSYMPATHETIC" AND THAT HE AND SEVERAL OTHERS IN WASHINGTON, INCLUDING CONGRESSMAN METCALFE, HAD COUNSELLED AGAINST A COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE "POLITICAL" JOB ACTION. HIS MAIN OBJECTIVE WAS AN EXECUTIVE ORDER GUARANTEEING ANY EMPLOYEE, AMERICAN OR PANAMANIAN, A FEDERAL JOB IN THE US IF TREATY WENT INTO EFFECT TO ESCAPE IMMINENT PERIL TO LIVES AND SAFETY POSED BY TORRIJOS GOVERNMENT.

5. HE SUGGESTED A CONSPIRACY IN HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE STATEMENT TO HIM THAT IT WOULD HEAR ONLY ONE LABOR WITNESS, ALFRED GRAHAM, RATHER THAN "THE AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVE OF CANAL ZONE WORKERS," DRUMMOND. UPSHOT WAS ANNOUNCEMENT BY CLU-MTC THAT DRUMMOND WOULD ACCOMPANY GRAHAM TO WASHINGTON. DRUMMOND SAID HE WOULD LEAVE AGAIN ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 18.

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6. HE IMPLIED AGAIN THAT CANAL PILOTS HAD ABANDONED REST OF WORKFORCE IN EXCHANGE FOR 15-YEAR RETIREMENT MEASURE. (JUST BEFORE END OF MEETING, PRESIDENT JOHN WILLIAMS OF PILOTS ASSOCIATION PUBLICLY CHALLENGED THIS IMPLICATION AND FORCED DRUMMOND TO BACK OFF.) HE CONCLUDED BY ASKING THE PEOPLE TO TELL HIM WHETHER THEY WANTED HIM TO LEAD THEM ON A JOB ACTION, OR RETURN TO WASHINGTON "FOR ANOTHER TRY". THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE AUDIBLE RESPONSE FROM CROWD.

7. RALLY WAS GENERALLY ORDERLY, AND MORE SUBDUED THAN THE SEPTEMBER 7 RALLY. THERE WAS APPARENTLY NO STRONG MEDIA INTEREST. PANAMA CITY MEDIA HAVE IGNORED RALLY SO FAR.

8. COMMENT: DRUMMOND CLEARLY WANTS TO RESERVE A WORK STOPPAGE AS A FUTURE OPTION; HE SAID HIS (UNSPECIFIED) "WASHINGTON CONTACTS" TOLD HIM THAT UNLESS PEOPLE THERE BELIEVED THAT EMPLOYEES CONTINUED READY TO STOP WORK, THEY WOULD GET NOTHING AT ALL. NONETHELESS, IT NOW APPEARS THAT DRUMMOND WILL WAIT

AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER HIS NEXT RETURN FROM WASHINGTON  
BEFORE TRYING TO START A WILDCAT POLITICAL WALKOUT.  
END COMMENT.  
JORDEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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